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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
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MINERALS PROGRAM
FILE COPY

October 8, 1991

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Tony Gallegos, Reclamation Engineer *dag*

RE: Site Inspection, Native Asphalt Company, Cameron #1 Project,
S/047/036, Uintah County, Utah

Date of Inspection: October 3, 1991

Time of Inspection: 1000 - 1220

Conditions: Fair, warm

Participants: Mark Lindsey, Native Asphalt; John Blake, State Lands & Forestry;
Tony Gallegos, DOGM

The purpose of this inspection was to examine the location of a proposed future mine site located on State Lands north of the existing mine site. Native Asphalt had submitted the proposal to both the Division and State Lands.

We met in Vernal and drove to the proposed mine site located in section 36, approximately one mile northwest of the Cameron #1 site. Mr. Lindsey indicated that their preferred access route would be from the existing road which entered the site from the north rather than the existing road from the south, which had been indicated in the proposal. This northern route is less steep, requires less road building and maintenance than the route from the south. For the most part, this road is located on private property.

The pros and cons of three general locations for the proposed pit location were discussed and one location was selected as the most favorable. This area consists of fairly level terrain, little topsoil and vegetation, and is situated out of the major drainage channels. An outcrop of asphalt, with a lone tree growing out of it, sits south-southeast of the proposed pit location. This location has very little if any, overburden or topsoil overlying the asphalt deposit.

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I indicated that since the pit would be located on State Lands, Mr. Blake would have more input regarding the requirements of final reclamation of the pit. Mr. Blake indicated that any highwalls would need to be eliminated. The pit would need to be backfilled and the material compacted to prevent erosion; then the backfilled pit would need to be regraded to blend in with the surrounding contours. A minimum of two feet of topsoil material would need to be placed over the recontoured area which would then be seeded and mulched.

Several questions were raised which Native Asphalt needs to address. What will be the actual dimensions of the pit? How much material will be needed to backfill the pit? How much topsoil material will be needed to reclaim the pit? Where will this topsoil material come from?

Mr. Lindsey indicated that this project would be a pilot project at first and if results are favorable it would undergo further development. As for the timing of this project, Native Asphalt is waiting for certain technologies before they will proceed with the actual development of the proposed mine. Mr. Blake indicated that he had submitted the proposal to the RDCC which required 60 days for processing/review. The amount of time elapsed thus far would allow work to begin on the mine in mid-November, barring any negative comments.

From the Division's point of view, this project would be considered part of the Cameron #1 mine site, due to its proximity. Native Asphalt has proposed partial reclamation of the Cameron #1 site in order to keep the total acreage for both pit locations under five acres. If the site is under five acres the Division does not require a bond. State Lands, however, does require a minimum bond of \$5,000 plus any site specific reclamation costs which exceed the \$5,000.

The meeting concluded with the understanding that Native Asphalt would provide additional information regarding the proposed mine development. The Division and State Lands would suspend their review of the proposal until the additional information was received.

Mr. Lindsey and I then proceeded to visit the Cameron #1 site to examine the reclamation status. This site is located on private property. A portion of the hillside north of the stockpile area had been previously scalped during operations. Mr. Lindsey indicated that this area had been regraded. An attempt at ripping the slope had been made, but the asphalt material combined with the hard gravel made this very difficult. Mr. Lindsey indicated that the area had been broadcast seeded sometime in

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May 1991. Examination of the area showed most of the plants to be invader species such as russian thistle and halogeton. Photos were taken to document the status of this area.

Some additional reclamation of the area is still needed. Several small piles of material need to be regraded. The road and berm sloping up the side of the scalped area need to be regraded. Mr. Lindsey indicated that they would like to clean up the breached dike area near the wetlands. At the time of this inspection the breached area had recently sloughed in around the drainage of the wetlands. It was suggested that the bank of the breached area could be pulled back and made into a gentler slope without affecting the wetlands. Some piles of gravel located over the rise to the east of the stockpiles will also need to be regraded or removed.

We examined the remainder of this site and found no causes of concern. Photos were taken of the pit area and the adjacent wetlands area. The plants were considerably tall given that this was a wet year.

I indicated that I would need to discuss the idea of reducing the disturbed area through partial reclamation with the other Division staff. The photographs of the seeded area would also need to be reviewed before the Division could consider this proposal. The Division will notify Mr. Lindsey via mail of the decision regarding the partial reclamation issue.

jb

cc: John Blake, State Lands
Mark Lindsey, Native Asphalt
Kathy Trott, Army Corps of Engineers
Holland Shepherd, DOGM

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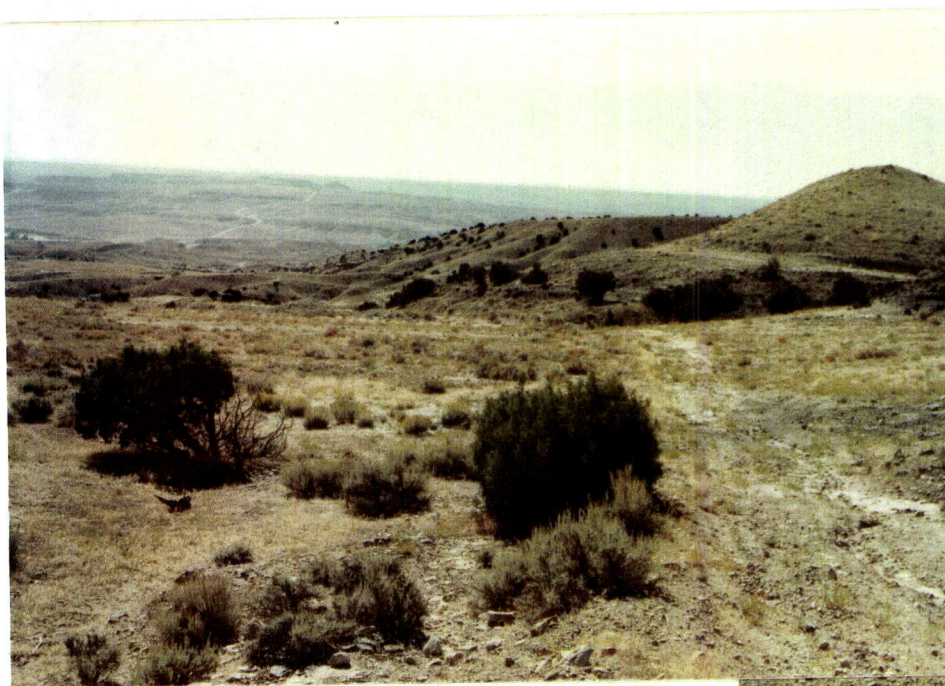


5/6477/0266
NATIVE AGRIKULT CO
CAMERON #1
10/3/91
PROGRAMA FROM W--E
SCARPED AREA WHICH
STOWING TILES
WAS SEEDS. WHICH NEED
-NOTE REMAINING TILES
ROAD (FIRE FIGHT) WHICH
TO BE REPAIRED





Asphalt Co.
Native New Pit
10/17/036 PROPOSED LOCATION IS N/100E TREE
SITE OF PROPOSED PIT LOCATED w/100E TREE
- PROPOSED PIT LOCATED
OF ASPHALT
10/13/01



S/047/036 CAMERON #1
NATIVE ASPHALT Co.
10/3/91
WETLANDS AREA
NOTE BREACHED DIKE/ROAD AREA

S/047/036 CAMERON #1
NATIVE ASPHALT Co.
PIT AREA & WETLANDS VEGETATION
10/3/91

S/047/036 CAMERON #1
NATIVE ASPHALT Co.
10/3/91

DETAIL OF AREA SEEDED
IN MAY 1991

S/047/036 CAMERON #1
NATIVE ASPHALT Co.
10/3/91

BREACHED DIKE/ROAD AREA
NEAR WETLANDS

S/047/036 ~~CAMERON #1~~
-NEW PIT PROPOSAL
NATIVE ASPHALT Co.
10/3/91

-VIEW S-SE FROM PROPOSED
SITE, ROAD SOUTH TO CAMERON #1

S/047/036 NATIVE ASPHALT Co. 10/3/91
LOOKING NSW

-PROPOSED LOCATION FOR NEW PIT